Jeff. Davis the Evil Genius of the Rebellion

Denunciation of the Treatment of Union Prisoners.

THE RETREAT OF LONGSTREET'S COMMAND

What His Campaign has Amounted to.

THE SIEGE OF CHARLESTON.

FORTRESS MONROE, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1863. The Richmond Enquirer of the 10th and 11th inst, is received, from which we obtain the following: THE REBEL CONGRESS.

THE REBEL CONGERSS.

RICHMOND, Friday, Dec. 11, 1863.—Yesterday the Senate passed the bill prohibiting the employment of substitutes in the army.

In the Rebel Congress on the 8th inst. Mr. Foote, of Tennessee, in a speech, said that the President never visited the army without doing it injury. Never has he existed any ef our armies but what it has been followed by disaster. He charged him with almost having ruined the country, and he would meet his champion any where to disease it.

Confederate Government in the attitude charged by the enemy. From the list to the 26th of November meat was furnished to the prisoners very irregularly. For twelve days the supply was inadequate, and for eight days they get more at all. He demanded the removal of Mr. Northrup, for the honor of the country.

LONGSTREES'S

BRISTOL, Thursday, Dec. 10.—Longstreet's forces are in line of battle at Rutledge. His rear is kirmishing with the enemy, whose pursuit has not been rigorous since our forces left Morristown.

Our cavalry were skirmishing all day Monday with the advance of Wilcox's forces on Clinch River.
Capt. Everett's raiding party reterred to Abingdon, attacked the enemy at Mount Storling. Ky, and routed them after a stubborn resistance. The Court-House and Jail were burned.
Capt. Everett's raiding party reterred to Abingdon, attacked the enemy at Mount Storling. Ky, and routed them after a stubborn resistance. The Court-House and Jail were burned.
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Capt. Everett's raiding party returned to Abingdon, catacked the enemy at Mount Storling. Ky, and routed the best possible face upon the torrible dissisters that have befallen his armies during the last tweive menths, yet there is a degree of frank-ness in his statements, an admission of "grave revenues," a confession that he had under-estimated the obstinacy with which the Federal Government was bent upon following up the contest, that challenges our respect, while betraying the utier despair that evidently file his own boson. When a mind are resistance of these whe fall for home, liberty, and independence, to permit any doubt of the result.

closely pursued by 1,200 cavalry, who are new at Glades ville, Va.

From The Richmond Examiner Dec. 8.

We have to-day only one piece of news of interest, and that relates to the present position of Gen. Longstreet. We are at last able to inform on readers where he is. An official dispatch was received from him yesterday, dated "Ruiledge, Dec. 6." Ruiledge is 30 miles north-east of Knexville, on the road to Bristol, and 100 miles from the latter place. At the date of his dispatch he had haited at Ruiledge, but he will inavitably fall back to Bristol on the approach of the enemy. In his present position he is liable to an attack in front from Burnside, in flank from Cumberland Gap, and in rear from the pursuing forces of Grant, who, the telegraph informs us, are making their way toward his rear from the pursuing forces of Grant, who, the telegraph informs us, are making their way toward his rear from the pursuing forces of Grant, who, the telegraph informs us, are making their way toward his rear from the demolishing of Sumter, the capture of our forces in East Tennessee, and the driving back of points, we may feel assured that he believes (whatever least of the pursuent, What Longstreet has effected in East Tennessee may be summed up in the word nothing.

APPAIRS BRFORE CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Saturday, Dec. 5, 1863.—No

CHARLESTON, Saturday, Dec. 5, 1863.—No through the stelldity of Mason, failed to win the favor of England, he now turns upon her with all the bitterned a Yankee calcium light last night. Only six shots were fired on Sunter to day. The fort is now consider to reproaches and sarcasm. With Mr. Sew-

were fired on Sunter to-day. The fort is now considered age against all assentis.

Charleston, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 1863.—This afternoon the enemy opened fire on the city, and threw eight shells. Moultre and James Island batteries returned the fire silecting the enemy. Five buildings were struck. No persons injured.

Charleston, Thursday, Dec. 10, 1863.—The enemy shelled the city between 10 and 11 o'clock last night and 3 and 4 o'clock this morning. Twenty shots were thrown. Our batteries opened heavily upon the enemy during the shelling of the city.

SECOND DISPATCH.

enemy during the shelling of the city.

SECOND DISPATCH.

We have kept up a constant fire to-day, driving the enemy's working parties from Gregg and Wagner. No firing of any consequence to-day on Suntar, and no shelling of the city.

A CHEERFUL VIEW.

A CHEERFUL VIEW.

A CHEERFUL VIEW.

When men, says The Sarannah Republican, shall grow cool and begin to think, when the whirl and excitement of war shall be over, and history enter upon her sober work of recording the past, the siege of charleston, now regarded by the Yankees as the grand work of the war, will stand forth the boldest and most supendous foolery of any age. Thousands upon thousands of lives and millions of treasure have been expended in the herculean undertaking, and the vast out as y seems destined to progress without material results. u ex- precedents, which occurred during the Old Napoleonic enacting the drama seem utterly impervious to the light of reason. Carbonor is a question which they have never stopped for a moment to ask themselves. The very best reason that we have seen why Sunter should be taken is that the enainy "need it for the name of it." No sensible man can point out one great advantage in the fall of that work, and yet the Yackees have been pounding away upon it for months with the greatest navy, in point of strength, that the world ever saw, and with an outlay of money that is positively astoniding. It is already harmless, except to assailing parties of infantry, and if taken, it never could be occupied for a day together; and yet they abate not one jot of effort for its reduction. A strange infantation seems to possess them, and the silly fools actually talk of ending the revolution where it begin—at Sunter.

against the one and then the other of the

for Foreign Affairs.

and therefore they thought the best mode of avoiding

appleasant reminiscences was to recognize our blockad

toubtless, in these statements. In this connection, the

While Palmerston has bee

Rebel chief is very savage upon Earl Russell, Secretary

would only wait till " something turned up," he migh

s plain that he has never had any hopes of Russell. He

Foreign Secretary avowed his cordial sympathy with

the North, in a tone of sureastic bitterness. The Earl'

andisguised hostility to the South because their so-called

Government is founded upon Slavery as its chief corner

stone, provokes his ire, and he taunts England for the

estion somewhat gingerly, and turning a few fartive

he next discusses that most dolefel of all subjects, the

FINANCES.

toin Napoleon in recognising its existence, yet,

# JEFF. DAVIS'S MESSAGE.

The annual message of Jefferson Davis is before as. A more lugabrious document we never read itone, provokes his ire, and he taunts England for the Thore is not a bright streak in it. All is darkness and ten thousandth time with having forced Slavery upon despair. If the chief conspirator can make out no better case than this for the Confederacy, when allowed to invoking to his aid the hereditary hatred of the Southtell his own story without being put to a cross-examinal orn Democracy toward. England, impels Davis to make tion, what a deleful tale would the real facts warrant; it the most racy, as it is the most claborate and able, We propose to give an elaborate synopsis of this artial ions apology of the traitor President for the sorry plight in which he finds the affairs of Rebeldom at giances toward that country, as if it might be a safe the close of the third year of the insurrection. We will as ham for a hard pressed man to escape to by and by, give without retrenchment his statement of

Orace reverses befold our arms Richards. MILITARY OFERATIONS.

Grave reverses beful our arms soon after your departure from Bickmond. Early in July our stronghoods at Vicashure from Bickmond. Early in July our stronghoods at Vicashure and Fort Hodson, together with their entire gardsons, capit directly of Davis is unequal to the object the countries limit and hovel forces of the countries of the count

# New-York Tribune.

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1863.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

pinuation of this disaster, which laid open Eastern Tennessee and South-western Virginia to hostile operations, and broke the line of communication between the seat of Government and Middle Tennessee. This easy success of the enemy was followed by an advance of Gien Rosecrans into Georgia, and our army evacuated Clastenoopa and availed itself of the opportunity thus afforded of winning on the field of Chicamanga one of the most brilliant and decisive victories of the war. This signal defeat of Gien Rosecrans was followed by his retreat into Chattanoopa, where his imperiled position had the immediate effect of relieving the pressure of the invasion at other points, forcing the concentration for his relief, of large bodies of treeps withdrawn from the straies of the Mississippi Valley and in Northern Virginia. The combined forces thus accumulated against as in Pennessee so greatly outnumbered our strong as to encourage the enemy to attack. After a long and severe battle, in which great carange was inflicted on him, some of our troops inexplicably abundened positions of great strength, and by a disorderly rofreat, compelled the commander to withdraw the torces elsewhere successful, and smally to retire with his whole stray to a position some 20 or 30 miles to the rear. It is believed that if the troops who yielded to the assault had fought with the valor which they had disabyted on previous eccasions, and which was manifested in this battle on the other parts of the line, the angest of the first of the roots of the line, the angest of the seather of the other parts of the line the angest of the seather of the other parts of the line. widened so as to embrace new classes, and that negroe boast much of his navy, but says he is building a few OUR FORCES COMMAND MATAGORDA BAY by "niggers," if they can reach his case. He does not

full the few truths and many falsehoods he utters upon

vessels at ten or a dozen places, though sadly short of mechanics to construct the ships and of seamen to navi-

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS. I regret to inform you that the enemy have relatined to the barberous policy with which they inaggrated the war, a that the exchange of prisoners has been for sometime supers ed. The correspondence of the Commissioners of Exchange submitted to you by the Secretary of War, and it has already published for the information of all now suffering made imprisonment. The conduct of the endowners.

terrible dispaters that have befallen his armies during the

teria and fawned upon Napoleon two years. Having, through the stolicity of Mason, failed to win the favor ard's volumes of diplomatic correspondence in his

nor show how it wholly ignores the real points at issue aid and comfort has fied. He complains that our blockrespecting the exchange of negro troops. These wh have read Gen. Hitchcock's report understand the sub ade has been a mere paper blockade, and that the real

After reiterating stale falsehoods about the " crus ties of the enemy," and the usual tirade about our barbarities," he closes with this plans invocation:

nd feel that it is the dying wail of a dispirited and nominated for a snug place in some asylum for lamatics

willing to encourage the Confederate agents in England THE PURSUIT OF THE CHESAwith hints if not promises that if the Confederacy

She Left Shelburne on Priday Night-Our Gunbonts in Close Pursuit-Atrocity of comments upon the celebrated speech, in which the the Pirates.

PORTLAND, Dec. 13, 1863,

deamer Chesapeake Left Shelburne on Saturday morn ng, with an increased crew and twenty chaldrons of

portion of the Message. After touching the Mexican vessel. A steamer was seen in Mahon Bay, near Chester esterday afternoon, running about the islands,

> eft Shelburne harbor last night. The city is thronged with Southern refugees.

Bostox, Saturday, Dec. 12-p. m. Capt. Willett, late of the steamer Chesspeake, with ight of his crew, passed through Boston this afternoon n route to New-York.

same, and the refrest of our any from Little Rock, gave to the enemy the control of the important valley in which it situated.

The regular toropy, so ably commanded in the State Province. The grainstropy cost only commanded in the State beyond the Missisppi indicted reported delease on the investigation of the control of the important valley in which it is simulated. But he was not book demondery to the control of the investigation of the state of the Missisppi indicted reported delease on the investigation of the state of the Missisppi indicted reported delease on the investigation of the state of the state

The Rebels Driven into their Works.

THEY BLOW UP FT. ESPERANZA AND ESCAPE.

CAPTURE OF TEN HEAVY GUNS.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1863. The following dispatch was, to-day, received at the Headquarters of the Army from Maj. Gen. Banks, commanding the Department of the Gulf,

Major-Gen. Washburne at Fort Esperanzo, Pas Cabalto, Matagorda Bay:

The command of the Bay gives us substantially the control of Central and Western Texas and all of the important points on the east coast except Galveston.

" FORT ESPERANZA, Dec. 2, 1663. "At 1 s. m. Nov. 30, the Rebels blew up the maga tines of this fort, having evacuated two hours before. It is a very large and complete work, bomb-proof, and partially eased with railroad iron. It had a garrion of 1,000 men, who escaped all but six. By reason of the continuance of the gale the gunboats could not furnish me with launches to enable me to cut off their commu nications, nor could they take part in the attack. On the 29th we drove them from all their outworks, and advanced our sharpshooters well up to the fort. We captured ten guns ranging from 24 to 128-pounders."

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC Recoundsanuce Toward Speritville-The Situation-No Signs of Another Cam-

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1863. The following has been received from your orrespondent, T. C. G.:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. } Capt Philip Schuyler has been appointed Assistant Adjutant-General to Brig.-Gen. Patrick, Provost-Mar-

shal-General, in place of Capt. Kimball, resigned. An order regulating the traffic of sutlers is soon to be saued from Headquarters, by which they will be permitted to enter the Army again, under searly the same

The 1st Virginia Cavalry left for home to-day for the

lay are being liberally issued to officers and men.

## Capture of the Blockade Runner Minna Sinking of the Monitor Wechnwhen. FORTRESS MONROE, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1863.

The steamship Circassian, Capt. Eaton, from the Rio Grande the 25th ult., has just arrived here. On the 9th lust., when one day out from Charlest the Circassian captured the large blockade runner Minna, with a very valuable assorted cargo.

The Circassian towed the Minns into Hempton Roads. The captain of the latter tried to sink her, but the Cirassian's men got on board in time to stop it.

Last Sunday the monitor Weehawken sunk near Charleston Bar. Thirty-three men were lost, including

The Circussian experienced very heavy weather. WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 1863.

The blockade runner Minna, captured on the 9th inst. by the Circassian, is a steamer of six hundred and fifteen tons register, and was cleared from Liverpool for Nassau August 25, her ostensible consignees being Wil-S e is supposed to be in the track of some coal Inn's Beshby; but she was really consigned to Fraser,

The Loss of the Wechawken.

We announced on Saturday the sinking of the onitor Weehawken at her moorings off Charleston on enlty with England, and the popular stand taken by the the 6th inst. The following are the particulars of the The Weehawken was anchored with the rest of the fleet operating at Charleston, her position beng second in the line of iron-clad between Morris and Sullivan Islands, and lying the next but one (the Montank being the first) to Fort Sumter. She was under charge on, who was wounded; Augustus Starbeck, the Third of Commander Calhoun, who, however, was not on board at the time of her loss. On Saturday night, the 5th, the weather, which had been calm, became stormy, ourder of the second mate, and says that as a deed of and on Sunday morning the sea ran very high. The vessel rolled a great deal, and seas were constantly shipped, which, pouring down the forward hatchway. filled the anchor room. This appears to have caused no sy for a considerable time on the vessel's deck, until at no anxiety-even when the water could not be got aft, so as to be pumped out, there appeared to be little trouble taken on the subject. The apparatus for pre- ci venting the rush of water to the cabin was out of order venting the rush of water to the cabin was out of order also, and the officers and men went to dinner as usual, without dreaming that a six-luch stream of water was pouring into the vessel. When this was discovered the population, and received 731.

The vote on the remainder of the candidates was as follows: ery, "She is sinking," created a panic, and the ordinary means of endeavoring to save her were neglected, as, Erastos Corning..... for instance, closing the water-tight bulkhead, between the captain's cubin and the windlas room. There was the capitals subin and the windias room. There was only one small apperture for escape, and officers and interest and men crowded to it, while the engineers, who were unaware of their danger, were forgotten. The vessel went down with sick men in their cots, men in ironsibetween the control of the control surgeon's steward tried to save others who were help-less. Thirty man were thus drawners and the steward tried to save others who were helpaurgeon's steward tried to save others who were helpless. Thirty men were thus drowned. Those who got
away in the boats were with difficulty rescued, owing
to the high sca. It is believed that all the officers were
saved except the four assistant engineers.

The Weehawken, as is well known, is a monitor. Her
capacity is 844 ans burdes, and she carries two heavy

guns in the usual revolving turret, and she is about 200 feet long, 140 feet wide, and 12 feet deep. Her side armor is five inches thick. The ram extends in front and looks as sharp as an ax-blade. The vessel is pro rided with six water tight compartments, connected machinery were of the best description; the cylinders, we believe, are 40 inches. Her officers and crew hav ing been changed very frequently of late, it is impossi-

ble to give an accurate list of either until the arrival of the Arago, which will be about Tuesday next. A letter received by an officer at the New-York Nav Station from one of the officers of the Weehawken, etates that Admiral Dahlgren had entered into definite arrangements for raising her. The contract completed by the Admiral stipulates that the Weehawken is to be forwarding any more good to this point.

raised, and the Government is to pay the parties what "BENJ. F. BUT ER, Maj. Gen. Comd'g." raised, and the Government is to pay the parties what sank until her bows were below water mark, rendering them of course useless.

It would be premature to speak positively as to the suse of this terrible catastrophe, but it is proper to say that at the time of her loss the Wechawken had much more shot and shell on board than usual, and required but 200 tuns more to sink her. This circumstane aused her to be low in the water and the deck was almost always submerged. The forward hatch being left epen, admitted great bodles of water, and this, which if st space of time. She lies in 5 fathoms.

Our Country's Needs and Obligations. On Saturday evening the first of a series of meetings given under the auspices of the National Lit-

erary Society, was held in the large hall of the Cooper Institute. The audience, though small, was very appreclative. Gen, PROSPER M. WETMORE called the meeting t

order. He regretted the sparseness of the assembly and the absence of some of the speakers who were expected to be present, and then introduced as the first speaker Prof. MARTIN.

Prof. Martin paid a glowing tribute to the brave men who had faced death and danger in the cause of their country. The country owed a peculiar debt of gratitude to those who gave it their services in any great and retious crisis. He referred to the imagnation of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, and declared it to be a noble tribute to those who had there laid down their lives upon the airar of patriotism. He would have the President's speech on that occasion inscribed on the gate of the cemetery, and he would have the name of every here buried there so inscribed. We first went into the war, the speaker believed, to recover forts and arsenals, and to enforce certain laws among rebellious communities—not for Liberty; but there has been a Providence which has shaped our ends in spite of us, and we now find ourselves, whether we will or no, fighting the battle of Freedom. He would have us contend for Freedom to all—not under the laws and the Constitution and a better Union, and more equitable laws. The speech was frequently applauded, especially when he said President Lincoln had done a few of the noblest things ever achieved by the head of a great nation.

The following resolution was suggested by the Chair-

ted to take measures to perpetuate the mem oldlers of New York who fell at Gettysburg. Mr. THEODORE TILYON, of The Indepen-The list Virginia Cavalry left for home to day for the purpose of recruiting the regiment up to its original number. The men are almost unanimously in favor of recruiting the regiment up to its original number. The men are almost unanimously in favor of recruiting.

A ranker of officers attached to an important burean at Hundquarters returned from a three days' reconnoissance toward Sperryville last night. They were excerted by a portion of the 1st Massachusetts and 1st New Jersey Cavalry, the whole commanded by Major Janeway of the first mentioned regiment. Squads of the 6th Virginia Cavalry were occasionally encountered and shots exchanged, but beyond the wounding of a horse no casualities occurred. The expedition penetrated to New by's Cross Roads, Woodville, and other small towns in the vicinity of Sperryville, and was entirely successful in its mission.

The condition of affairs on the front remains unchanged. The energy has a considerable force of infantry pleketing the north bank of the Rapidan above Ropidan Station, but none below that point. There are no outward indications of another active campaign this Winter, on the contrary, the troops have settled down with the apparent intention of remaining in their present quarters till Spring. Furloughs of from ten to twenty day are being liberally issued to officers and men.

From California.

San Francisco, Friday, Dec. 11, 1863.

News has been received from the new wreck ing party engaged in scarching for treasure where the steamer Golden Gate sunk last year. Four additional control of the steamer Golden Gate sunk last year. steamer Golden Gate sunk last year. Four additional boxes of treasure have been recovered. The search will be continued while the favorable season lasts. The Los Angeles Vigilance Committee have taken another prisoner from the possession of the Sheriff and hing him. He had been convicted of an attempt to fill, and sentenced to ten years confinement in the Pen-tentiary. Previously he had committed murder and confessed his guilt.

Money abundant, but strong security demanded for oans.

loans.
Attantic currency exchange sells at the rate of 38 @40 per cent premium for gold in New-York.
Legal tender notes are worth 70 | #71 | cents.

From Brazil-Triumph of the Liberal By the arrival of the Brazilian brig Palma

Captain Roque, we have dates from Rio Janeiro to Oc tober 24, from Pernambuco to November 7, and from Rio Grande del Norte to November 10. The most im-Trenholm & Co. She was subsequently reported as cleared from Nassau, November 7, to run the blockade. years is the complete triumph of the Liberal Party over the Conservatives. The latter have been opposed to progress since the death of the Marquis of Parana, in 1857, and would have carried the election, but the diffi-Emperor in that affair, gave the Liberals an overwhelm

Emperor in that affair, gave the Liberals an overwhedming victory. Out of more than one hundred Delegates to the Brazilian Lower House, only ten Conservatives have been elected. The Liberals are in favor of opening the Amazon, and of establishing a line of steamers from New-York to Rio Janeiro. It is rumored that our minister has already spoken of a steamship line between Brazil and the United States. There was nothing of importance at the capital in commercial news. The news from Pernambuco was of no importance, Cotton and sugar both high, and very little of the latter. During the passage of the Palma a large number of meteors have been seen, and a very brilliant one on the 13th inst. at 5 a. m., when near Sandy Hook.

The Central Railroad Elecion. Messrs, Dean Richmond and Hamilton White, who were on both tickets, received, 181,653. This amount, therefore, represents the total vote

ast. John H. Chedell was placed on both tickets and re-

OUR SUFFERING PRISONERS.

The Rebels Refuse to Receive Further Supplies.

REMARKABLE PHASE OF CHIVALRY.

WHAT SOUTHERN HONOR CONSISTS OF.

PRISONERS OF WAR MUST STARVE

BALTIMORE, December 13, 1863. The following dispatch was received this morning:

To C. C. FULTON, Baltimore American

" Please give notice that the Rebel authorities decline celving any more packag s or provisons for the Union prisoners, so that parties atcrested may refrain from

The Rev. Mr. Parrance, who went to City Point with is right. The letter further states, that before the pumps had got into operation on board the ship she had Dr. Clement C. Barelay, returned this morning. He had an interview with Capt. Hatch, who was sent from Richmond to meet him. He informed him of the above decision of the Rebel Government, and gave as a reason therefor, what they alleged to be an imputation on their honor by the press and Government authorities, that they were not delivering the goods forwarded in good faith to prisoners, and asserted that of his own knowledge the officers in Libby Prison, from the immense supplies they had received, could set a table from their ores in hand equal to any hotel in the United States. all the apparatus had been in order could have been got rid of, carried her down head-foremest in a very short supplies at one time, but that the officer who had been guilty of neglecting the prisoners had been promptly removed and punished. As to the bad condition of the prisoners returned to Annapolis, he said they were ex-treme cases of consumption, and that it was an error on the part of the authorities to have allowed such prisoners to return. For the present nothing would be Southern money had better be sent.

> The Reported Small-Pox on Belle Isle Interesting Correspondence Between Gen. Butler and Robert Ould.

HEADQUARTERS FIGHTERNYH ARMY CORPS. DEPARTMENT OF VINGISIS AND NORTH CAROLINA.

FORTERS MONROR, Va., Dec. 8, 1863.

To the Hon. ROBERT UPLD, Agent of Exchange:
SIR: I have been informed that the small-pox has unfortunately broken out among the prisoners of war in the hands of the Confederate authorities, both at Belle Isle and at

will be faithfully devoted to the property of the friendly tone of your letter. Permit me, in response to the friendly tone of your letter, to assure you that it is my most auxious desire, and will be my constant effort to do everything in my power to alleviate the miseries that appring out of this horrible war. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, RO, OULD, Agent of Exchange.

Seat from the North-Interesting Correspondence-The Rebels Not Guilty of Keeping the Supplies.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1863. The following letter was forwarded to Gen. Meredith by Robert Ould, and his special attention requested to its contents:

"QUARTERNASTER'S OFFICE

Belle Isle.

I have the honor to be, Colonel, your most obedient servan

J. THOMAS, Capt. and A. A. Q. M.

Lieut.-Col. J. M. SANDERSON, Prisoner of War, Richmond
C. S. Millary Prison.

REPLY OF LIEUT.-COL. SANDERSON.

Sunday, Nov. 22, to distribute to the officers by one of twenty seven barrels, containing park, sait, beef, flour and corn ment, sent by The Satistance Americas, Relief Fund, but having no convenience for issuing it. I declined receiving it. On the following day, however, Linspected, in company with either officers, and directed Mr. Burnham, your assistant, to issue it in rations of half a pound per man to the two officers acting as Commissioners for the prisoners, and I can cheerfully state that the instructions have thus far been raithfully complied with, and these provisions have been issued in addition to the regular rations allowed us by the authorities here.

Very respectfully yours,

J. M. SANDERSON, Lieut. Col., U. S. A.
LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON DISTRIBUTION.

LETTER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON DISTRIBUTION LIBBY PRISON, RICHMOND, Va. Dec. 4, 1883.

Copt. C. MCRAE SELPH. Assistant Adjustant-General:

SEE: In answer to your communication of this date, referring to statements that have been made in regard to the distribution of clothing and rations sent to Richmond by the United States Government for Federal prisoners of war, the Committee in charge of the distribution of clothing desire to submit the following statement:

Government for Federal prisoners of war, the Committee in charge of the distribution of clothing desire to submit the following statement:

When the Committee entered on their duties, Nov. 10, only a small supply of clothing had been received at Richmond. To secure an equitable distribution of this to these who are most needy, and to ascertida what future consignments would be required for their comfort, it was deemed advisable to make an inspection of all the prisoners, a carried advisable to make an inspection of all the prisoners, a carried inspection was therefore made of all the prisoners of war on Belle Island and in Richmond, and a record made of the condition of each article of their clothing.

While this was in progress issues of blankets and such clothing as had been received were made to the most needy, since the arrival of the last lot, Nov. 22, two numbers of the Committee have been constantly engaged in the distribution, which is now almost complete. The Committee is unable to propare a statement of the amount of clothing issued in time for this communication. Statements is detail will be provided, however, as soon as possible, of the amount of clothing received and issued, and the amount required to supply the wants of the prisoners of war now here, a copy of which we respectfully request may be forwarded by a copy of which we respectfully request may be forwarded thing of truce to the proper United States military authorities.

A silpanent of clothing is now being made to Danville, sufficient to supply the wants of the prisoners of war at that place.

The duties of the Committee were limited by the order putting them on duty exclusively to the distribution of cicti-

The fact that rations forwarded by the United States Government ernment and Societies in the North were being issued to the prisoners of war on Belle lise, in the prisons in Richmond, has however, frequently come under the observation of mem-bers of the Committee, while in the discharge of the duty as-

very respectfully, your obedient servants, A. VAN SHUNDER, H. B. HUNTER, J. F. BOYD. J. F. BOYD.

Colonel and Quastermaster.

JAMES M. SANDERSON.

Lieut-Col. and C. S. V. A C.

From the Mississippi.

CARRO, Friday, Dec. 11, 1863.

Memphis papers of the 9th contain no news.
Cotton was dull; small sales at 40@45c. The steamer
Olive Branch brought to Memphis 424 bales of cotton
belonging to the Government, and 28 bales on private
account.

The Glendale has arrived here from Memphis with 500 bales of cotton for Cincinnati.

Heavy Robbery—Court-Martiel.
St. Louis, Priday, Dec. 11, 1863.
The office of the North Missouri Railroad was robbed of \$25,000 on Wednesday night.
William R. Strachan, a preminent member of the Legislature, who has been under arrest on charges preferred against him while acting as Provost Marshal of North Missouri last Summer, and since at large on parole, has been ordered to report here for trial next week

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ation of this disaster, which laid open Eastern Tennessee does disclose the fact that it is too small to face the PRONTIE DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF crisis, and is rapidly melting away. He calls for more men, recommends that the circle of the conscription be be pressed into the service in various capacities. He touches this latter topic tenderly; but, as Palmerston. Important from the Overland Expedition. with each other by suitable doorways. The engine and Napoleon, and Vallandigham have failed him, he has evidently run so low that he is not above being saved

gate them when finished.

Much interest being felt upon the subject, we give it

light, and break right through it, was that certain ugly ears, arising out of the Berlin and Milan decroes, and

> rowned with the reward due to men who have given all the casessed in the righteens defense of their inalicuable rights heir hones, and their alters.
>
> The man who can read this message, and not see defeated traitor and rebel, is in great danger of being

PORTLAND, Me., Saturday, Dec. 12, 1863. The steamer Chesapeake left Shelburne at 12 three engineers and one surgeon. clock last night, after shipping some men and coaling. The Eila and Anna arrived at Eastport this morning

A dispatch from Halifax this morning states that th

HALIFAX, Saturday, Dec. 12, 1863. There is no doubt but that the steamer Chesapeak

The pirates forced the Chief Engineer, Joseph John